Mechanised farming in Orissa

1976. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Orissa proposes to set up farmer's training centre to promote mechanized farming in collaboration with Bharat-Krushak Samaj;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action of the Central Government to help the State for successful execution of this project in order to improve the methods of cultivation of paddy, coconut, fish culture and animal husbandry in the State to improve the rural econ'omy of this backward region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Meeting of Low Rain Area Authority

1977. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of meetings held by the Low Rain Area Authority, so far;

(b) the decisions taken by the said authority in.such meetings; and

(c) whether Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme to convert low rain fed areas into high yielding areas inview of increasing need to foodgrains and constant decrease in agriculture land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government has not set up and Low Rainfall Area Authority. However, a National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) has been set up by the Government of India on 3.11.2006. This Authority has met once on 12.02.2007. The following decisions were taken in this meeting:—

- Awareness campaign should be taken up for water conservation and water management.